IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A digital data system comprising a server and a client capable of communication with one another over a network, the server including:

an item store holding a plurality of data items, each data item comprising a pointer to a source data entity accessible from the network, said source data entities being of a variety of different data formats; and

a component for serving copies of data items to the client;

and the client including:

an item store for holding a copy of one or more of the data items held by the server item store;

a component for requesting a copy of a data item from the server and placing it in the client item store;

a component for validating copies of data items held by the client item store and initiating a request for an updated copy of a data item from the server if the copy held by the item store is out of date; and

a user interface for enabling a user to interact with the data items to access the associated source data entities.

2. (Original) A data system according to Claim 1, wherein the client comprises a component for verifying a data item at the time it is first copied to the client.

3. (Original) A data system according to Claim 1, wherein the server comprises:

a group store holding a plurality of group identifiers, each group identifier having one or more of the data items assigned to it; and

a component for serving copies of group identifiers to the client;

and the client comprises:

a group store for holding a copy of one or more of the group identifiers held by the server group store;

a component for requesting a copy of a group identifier from the server and placing it in the client group store; and

a component for validating copies of group identifiers held by the client group store and initiating a request for an updated copy of a group identifier from the server if the copy held by the group store is out of date.

4. (Original) A data system according to Claim 1, comprising:

a data store for holding a copy of one or more source data entities associated with one or more respective data items held by the client item store; and

a component for accessing over the network the corresponding one or more original source data entities and updating the copy of any data entity held by the client data store if the original has changed.

5. (Original) A data system according to Claim 4, comprising a component for accessing and updating an original source data entity with changes made to the corresponding copy of the data entity held by the data store.

6. (Original) A data system according to Claim 4, wherein the data store is held by the client, the copy data entities held in the client data store being those associated with one or more respective data items held by the client item store.

7. (Original) A data system according to Claim 4, wherein the data store is held at the server.

8. (Original) A data system according to Claim 1, wherein each data item comprises a security tag indicating the identity of one or more users, and the client comprises a component restricting access to a data item only to those users identified in the data item's security tag.

9. (Original) A data system according to Claim 8, wherein the client comprises a component that prevents a copy of a data item being placed in the client item store by a user not identified in the data item's security tag.

10. (Original) A data system according to Claim 8, wherein the client comprises a component for deleting a data item from the client item store and for deleting any associated copy data entity held by the client if the client is accessed by a user not identified in the data item's security tag.

11. (Original) A data system according to Claim 3, wherein each data group comprises a security tag indicating the identity of one or more users, and the client comprises a component restricting access to a group only to those users identified in the data group's security tag.

12. (Original) A data system according to Claim 11, wherein the client comprises a component that prevents a copy of a group being placed in the client group store by a user not identified in the data group's security tag.

13. (Original) A data system according to Claim 11, wherein the client comprises a component for deleting a group from the client group store and for deleting any associated copy data items and data entities held by the client if the client is accessed by a user not identified in the group's security tag.

14. (Original) A data system according to Claim 1, wherein each data item comprises a meta tag containing information about the source data entity to which it points.

15. (Original) A data system according to Claim 1, wherein the client is hosted on a wireless communication device.

16. (Currently Amended) [[Use of]] A method comprising the step of utilizing a system according to Claim 8 by an owner or controller of digital material to distribute and control access to the digital material.

-4-

17. (Currently Amended) [[Use of]] <u>A method comprising the step of utilizing</u> a system according to Claim 1 to amalgamate digital data from a variety of disparate sources.

18. (Currently Amended) [[Use of]] <u>A method comprising the step of utilizing</u> a system according to Claim 3 to manage a flow of work or a project.

19. (Currently Amended) A client system for use in a digital data system according to Claim 1, the client system comprising:

an item store for holding a copy of one or more of data items held by a server, the client system capable of communication with the server and each data item comprising a pointer to a source data entity accessible by the client, <u>said source data entities being of a variety of different data formats</u>;

a component for requesting a copy of a data item from the server and placing it in the item store;

a component for validating copies of data items held by the client item store and initiating a request for an updated copy of a data item from the server if the copy held by the item store is out of date; and

a user interface for enabling a user to interact with the data items to access associated source data entities.

20. (Currently Amended) A server system for use in a digital data system according to Claim 1, the server system comprising:

an item store holding a plurality of data items, each data item comprising a pointer to a source data entity accessible from the network, <u>said source data entities being of a variety of different data formats</u>; and

a component for serving copies of data items to a client in response to a request from the client.